

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. Claims 35-64 are allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious a nozzle arrangement having a longitudinal housing with at least one fluid feed opening and at least one fluid delivery opening, whereby in the housing, a fluid channel is formed, and an inner cross-section of the fluid channel reduces moving away from the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing, and the housing is made from plastic, and there is at least one stiffening member made from metal and extending in the longitudinal direction of the nozzle arrangement, and in the nozzle arrangement a longitudinal insert, having a plurality of distribution openings spaced from another in the longitudinal direction is formed, wherein the longitudinal insert is adjoining the longitudinal housing such that the plurality of distribution openings are in fluid communication with the at least fluid delivery opening, and the insert extends within the housing and is arranged so that the fluid channel defined by the insert is in communication with the at least one fluid delivery opening via the distribution openings, in order to feed the treatment fluid from the fluid channel via the distribution openings to the at least one fluid delivery opening and as the insert increases in thickness moving away from the fluid feed opening of the housing, the fluid channel reduces.
3. Claim 66 is allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious a nozzle arrangement for releasing a treatment fluid comprising: an

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elongated housing having a wall defining an interior with at least one fluid feed inlet for receiving the treatment fluid in a proximal end, at least one transverse fluid delivery outlet for releasing the treatment fluid, and a portion of a fluid channel for feeding the treatment fluid from the fluid feed inlet to the at least one fluid delivery outlet; at least one stiffening member against the wall within the interior and extending along a first portion of the fluid channel; and a longitudinal insert adjoining the wall within the interior and extending along a second portion of the fluid channel, the longitudinal insert defining a plurality of transverse distribution openings spaced from one another in a longitudinal direction such that the distribution openings are aligned with the at least one fluid delivery outlet in order to feed the treatment fluid from the fluid channel thereto and wherein the insert is wedge-shaped with a relatively narrow end near the proximal end.

4. Claim 67 is allowable because the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious a nozzle arrangement for releasing a treatment fluid, comprising: a longitudinal housing with at least one fluid feed opening for feeding the treatment fluid and at least one fluid delivery opening formed in the housing for releasing the treatment fluid, whereby in the housing a fluid channel is formed for feeding the treatment fluid from the fluid feed opening to the at least one fluid delivery opening, and whereby an inner cross-section of the fluid channel reduces moving away from the fluid feed opening in the longitudinal direction of the housing, wherein at or in the nozzle arrangement at least one stiffening member is provided which extends in the longitudinal direction of the nozzle arrangement, within the housing, the fluid channel is defined by a first longitudinal insert and a second longitudinal insert, the first longitudinal insert is wedge-shaped and as it

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increases in thickness moving away from the fluid feed opening of the housing, the fluid channel reduces, the second longitudinal insert has a constant thickness in the longitudinal direction of the housing, and is arranged such that a plurality of distribution openings spaced from one another in the longitudinal direction is formed, and the second longitudinal insert is arranged and extends within the housing such that the plurality of distribution openings are in fluid communication with the at least one fluid delivery opening so that the fluid channel is in communication with the at least one fluid delivery opening via the distribution openings, in order to feed the treatment fluid from the fluid channel via the distribution openings to the at least one fluid delivery opening. It is also noted that for the plurality of distribution openings to be in fluid communication with the at least one fluid delivery opening, the second longitudinal insert is implicitly spaced away from the edge of the housing.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON Y. KO whose telephone number is 571-270-7451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday; 9:30am-7:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MICHAEL BARR can be reached on 571-272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JYK/  
Jason Y. Ko  
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792  
29 October 2009

/Michael Barr/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art  
Unit 1792